

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): | Parris S. Wellman, et al. | Examiner: | Unassigned |
| Serial No: | Unassigned | Art Unit: | Unassigned |
| Filed: | Herewith | Docket: | 14641Z (ETH-1559CONT) |
| For: | SURGICAL DEVICE FOR CLAMPING, LIGATING, AND SEVERING TISSUE | Dated: | July 8, 2003 |

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

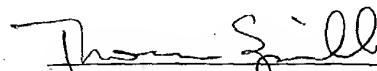
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Dated: July 8, 2003


Thomas Spinelli